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178515

CLOSED
UNTIL
1995

Previous A64 file
UNR 18221

1964

US

United Nations (Economic & Social) Department

REFUGEES

(Security Grading—to be Up-graded where Appropriate)

US R18221/1

FROM Joan Thompson, British Red Cross Society, to Mr. C.D. Powell.

No.

Dated Sept. 28

Received Oct. 1

SUBJECT: Encloses copies of index for use in connection with the list of Manga Arabs wishing to leave Zanzibar for Muscat/Oman.

Encloses Copy of: Index etc to list of Manga Arabs wishing to leave Zanzibar for Muscat/Oman

References and Relevant Papers:

UNR 18221/51

(Outward Action)

8) R.P. de Burlet, C.R.O. 2/10.

Copy sent to J. Reaves Esq. Muscat, 6/10.

R.P.
Copy to C&O (Mr. de Burlet)
Arabian Dept (Mr. Powell)
C.D.P.
5/10

MINUTES

JTT 2/10

x JTT 2/10

(Printing Instructions)

178515

(Referred to Legal Adviser)

(Action completed)

CKJ
8/10/64.

(Main Indexed)

KMP
26/2/65

THE BRITISH RED CROSS SOCIETY

14 & 15, GROSVENOR CRESCENT
LONDON, S.W.1.

Telephone
BELgravia 5454

Cables:
BRITREDCROSS, LONDON, S.W.1

Telegrams:
REDCROS, KNIGHTS, LONDON

Patron and President: HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN
Vice-President: HER MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH THE QUEEN MOTHER
Executive Committee:
Chairman: THE LORD INCHYRA, G.C.M.G., C.V.O.
Vice-Chairmen: DAME ANNE BRYANS, D.B.E.
SIR PATRICK RENISON, G.C.M.G.
Secretary General: F. H. D. PRITCHARD, ESQ., C.B.E.

JT/EL'E

28th September 1964

RECEIVED IN ARCHIVES No. 5
-30 SEP 1964
USR 18221/1

C. D. Powell, Esq.,
Foreign Office,
Downing Street,
S.W.1.

UN R18221/51

Dear Mr. Powell,

Further to our letter of 9th September to Mr. Goulding, we enclose two copies of the index which has been prepared for use in connection with the list of Manga Arabs wishing to leave Zanzibar for Muscat/Oman. This list places their family numbers in numerical order, and will therefore help those who are working on the original list. Ringed in blue pencil are the families which we know were embarked on the Suffeina-el-Hajjaj on 6th September. These can now be deleted from the original list.

We should be most grateful if you would as before despatch this document to Muscat, one copy for the Secretary for External Affairs and one for the information of the British Consul. We are sending one copy by airmail direct to the Secretary for External Affairs.

Yours sincerely,

Joan Thompson

for Evelyn Bark
Director International Affairs

INDEX TO LIST OF "MANGA" ARABS FROM ZANZIBAR WHO WISH TO ENTER OMAN

FAMILY NO:	PAGE NO:	FAMILY NO:	PAGE NO:	FAMILY NO:	PAGE NO:
1	42	61	44	133	13
3	35	63	39	"	1a
"	36	64	43	"	1b
6	34	68	45	136	3
"	45	73	34	137	2
9	44	74	45	139	66
10	34	75	38	142	4
12	36	"	44	143	66
14	32	79	44	144	5
15	42	81	66	145	9
17	35	83	40	149	7
18	42	87	38	153	8
21	34	93	39	154	9
23	40	94	44	157	9
26	37	"	45	"	10
27	36	95	32	158	11
32	66	96	32	164	11
33	40	97	42	165	4
"	41	98	39	171	5
34	42	100	34	184	2
35	42	101	1a	186	12
37	33	102	1a	187	11
41	36	103	14	"	12
"	37	105	3	191	10
44	41	109	4	192	12
47	33	113	4	193	14
"	38	116	12	202	12
51	46	119	14	203	3
53	43	122	8	205	11
56	39	"	9	206	11
57	38	126	6	207	8
58	44	131	12	208	5
59	45	"	13	"	6

P.T.O.

FAMILY NO:	PAGE NO:	FAMILY NO:	PAGE NO:	FAMILY NO:	PAGE NO:
212	4	285	31	357	19
213	4	287	22	359	17
"	5	288	21	360	20
214	14	"	22	367	27
222	11	290	24	370	24
226	14	294	20	374	17
227	10	"	21	375	29
229	10	297	28	376	30
230	2	303	27	377	20
231	14	305	16	378	25
232	11	307	29	380	26
236	6	308	31	381	25
237	7	309	29	382	17
240	7	310	30	"	18
244	6	311	19	383	28
245	20	312	29	386	60
246	66	313	22	387	57
257	10	320	16	398	52
262	16	322	15	400	50
"	17	323	30	401	47
266	23	324	23	403	64
267	26	326	23	407	60
271	24	327	31	409	69
272	30	328	25	410	46
273	27	"	26	411	51
275	18	329	26	415	56
"	19	"	27	422	49
277	28	332	26	423	57
278	15	336	18	424	57
279	19	340	20	425	48
280	20	342	23	427	58
283	18	353	28	430	47
284	19	355	17	433	60

Continued

FAMILY NO:	PAGE NO:	FAMILY NO:	PAGE NO:	FAMILY NO:	PAGE NO:
438	57	480	53	527	52
440	54	482	56	532	55
442	61	484	64	538	52
443	59	485	48	"	53
444	60	487	53	548	69
447	48	488	63	549	63
448	69	491	58	556	57
452	46	495	62	557	48
453	65	498	60	564	61
454	65	503	56	568	62
455	65	504	60	571	67
456	49	505	64	572	67
457	50	506	61	573	67
458	50	507	46	575	62
461	59	509	50	579	68
464	59	510	53	580	68
465	55	512	49	582	64
466	56	513	47	583	58
467	55	514	46	584	67
468	59	519	54	585	67
471	49	522	47	586	64
473	60	524	61	"	68
478	51	526	47		
479	58	527	51		

US

United Nations (Economic & Social) Department

(Security Grading—to be Up-graded where Appropriate)

CONFIDENTIAL

1964

REFUGEES

US R 18221/2.

FROM U.A.R.

SUBJECT: Kuwait Arabs.

Message from Red Cross to their representative in Zanzibar, about the clearance of another 49 families.

No. 748.

Dated Oct. 2.

Received Oct. 7.

Encloses Copy of:

References and Relevant Papers:

(Outward Action)

MINUTES

Arabian Dept (Mr. Parrott) CSP 12/X

9/10

(Printing Instructions)

(Referred to Legal Adviser)

(Action completed)	(Main Indexed)
CXJ. 12/10/64.	KMP 26/2/65

CONFIDENTIAL

East

Outward Telegram from Commonwealth Relations Office

6/10

TO: ZANZIBAR

RPTD: DAR ES SALAAM

(Sent 15.20 hours 2nd October, 1964)

RECEIVED IN ARCHIVES No. 2
- 7 OCT 1964
USR 1822/2

CYPHER
PRIORITY
No. 748 CONFIDENTIAL

Addressed Zanzibar No. 748, repeated Dar es Salaam No. 1913.

MANGA ARABS

Unless you see objection due to risk of involvment please pass following from Red Cross to their representative Hassan Abdulla. Begins:

Muscat cabled clearance for further following 49 families: Numbers 18, 51, 63, 97, 132, 227, 257, 272, 290, 294, 342, 440, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 377, 62, 222, 297, 303, 367, 415, 498, 438, 410, 3, 41, 165, 116, 144, 145, 184, 236, 244, 262, 278, 285, 288, 320, 398, 452, 519, 527, 532, 496, 579. Ends.

Copy to:-

C.R.O.
Mr. de Burlet
Mr. Aspin
Mr. Hunt

Foreign Office
Mr. C.D. Powell
Mr. J. Doyle

EAST AFRICA POLITICAL DEPT.

CONFIDENTIAL

US

United Nations (Economic & Social) Department

(Security Grading—to be Up-graded where Appropriate)

REFUGEES

US R 18221/3

FROM J. D. R. Kelly, U.K. Rep. of UNHCR, to Mr. Doyle.

No. G. XV. L. 1/32. 15/68.

Dated 15/10.

Received 16/10.

SUBJECT: MANGA ARABS.

Would be grateful for payment of UK contribution to cost of evacuating Manga Arabs from Zanzibar to Muscat & Oman. Address of UNHCR bank-account in UK.

Encloses Copy of:

References and Relevant Papers:

~~I, II~~

UNR 18221/47

(Outward Action)

Dft.) R.P. de Bruler, C.R.O. from Mr. Doyle, 19/10.

Dft.) J. D. R. Kelly U.N.H.C.R. of 21/10.

MINUTES

Dft Mr. de Bruler CRO
Mr. Keely.

19/10

x 21/10

(Printing Instructions)

(Referred to Legal Adviser)

(Action completed) CIC 23/10/64.

(Main Indexed) 26/5/65

Enclosures and pp

UNITED NATIONS
HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES
Branch Office for the United Kingdom and British Commonwealth

NATIONS UNIES
HAUT COMMISSARIAT POUR LES RÉFUGIÉS
Délégation pour le Royaume Uni et le Commonwealth

RECEIVED IN ARCHIVES No. 2
16 OCT 1964
UNR 18221/3.

Inland Telegrams : HICOMREF, WESTDO, LONDON
Overseas " : HICOMREF, LONDON

14/15 Stratford Place
London, W.1.
Tel.: MAYfair 3862 & 3863

REFERENCE : G.XV.L. 1/32 15/68

15 October 1964

UNR 18221/47

Dear John,

You will recall our conversations last August concerning the evacuation of the remaining Manga Arabs from Zanzibar to Muscat and Oman.

I understand that Mr. Peter Scott, United Kingdom Permanant Delegate in Geneva, has informed my Headquarters there that, in response to the appeal to Governments by the UNHCR for funds for this humanitarian operation, Her Majesty's Government made an offer of £10,000 to UNHCR.

Already some 550 of the Manga Arabs concerned have been embarked for Muscat and Oman, and our costs so far are nearing £10,000. We would therefore be very grateful if Her Majesty's Government would let us have the £10,000 as soon as possible so to meet the present costs. I would suggest that it be paid to "United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees No. 2 Account," Lloyds Bank (Europe) Ltd., 100 Pall Mall, London, S.W.1. If at the same time you could notify me of the payment, I would send you the official UNHCR receipt.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

John R. Kelly

J.D.R.Kelly,
Representative in the United Kingdom.

J. Doyle, Esq.,
United Nations Department,
Foreign Office,
Downing Street,
S.W.1.

Registry
No. USR 18221/3

+ O

20/12

O O N 21, 1964

Top Secret.
Secret.
Confidential.
Restricted.
Open.

Insert Telephone No. & Ext.
when appropriate.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Draft.

KELLY

J. D. R. Kelly
United Kep
from

14/15 STRATFORD PLACE,
LONDON,
W. 1.

Thank You for Your letter G.XV.L. 1/32 15/68 of October 15th about Her Majesty's Government's offer of £10,000 for the manage Arabs in Zanzibar.

I have passed Your letter on to the appropriate department for action.

RECEIVED IN DIVISION
20 OCT 1964
SENT TO TYPE
DESPATCHED

M.F.P

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

[redacted]USR 18221/3)

October 21, 1964.

Thank you for your letter G.XV.L.1/32 15/68 of October 15 about Her Majesty's Government's offer of £10,000 for the Manga Arabs in Zanzibar.

I have passed your letter on to the appropriate department for action.

(J. Doyle)

J.D.R. Kelly, Esq.,
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,
14/15 Stratford Place,
W.1.

Registry No. USR 18221/3

Top Secret. Secret. Confidential. Restricted. Open.

Insert Telephone No. & Ext. when appropriate.

Date Oct 19

Oct 19, 1964

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Draft.

Mr. R.P. de Burlet

CRO

pam

I enclose a copy of the letter from John Kelly about which we spoke on the telephone this afternoon.

The letter is self-explanatory - he wants his £10,000 for the Guanya Arabs!

19/10

RECEIVED IN DIVISION
20 OCT 1964
SENT TO TYPE
DESPATCHED

M.F.P

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

(USR 18221/3)

October 19, 1964.

I enclose a copy of the letter from John Kelly about which we spoke on the telephone this afternoon.

The letter is self-explanatory - he wants his £10,000 for the Manga Arabs!

(J. Doyle)

R.P. de Burlet, Esq.,
COMMONWEALTH RELATIONS OFFICE.

1964

US

United Nations (Economic & Social) Department

(Security Grading—to be Up-graded where Appropriate)

REFUGEES

US R 18221/4

FROM ~~A. S. Williams~~, ~~Conference & Supply Dept.~~, ~~to Mr. Doyle~~ A. B. Hodgson, British Red Cross Society (Disasters Emergency Committee).

No.

Dated 28/10.

Received 28/10.

SUBJECT: RED CROSS: DISASTERS EMERGENCY COMMITTEE.

Meeting to discuss finances of transfer of Manga Arabs from Zanzibar to Muscat & Oman: Oct. 27th.

Encloses Copy of:

~~1st~~, 2nd, 3rd, 4th & 5th Progress Reports on Manga Arabs: dated 25/8, 18/9, 22/10.

Notes of meeting 4th August to discuss charter of ship.

References and Relevant Papers:

(Outward Action)

MINUTES

I attended this meeting. There are about 600 Arabs left in Zanzibar. It was said that the rate of build up into Muscat ~~was~~ seems to be slowing up.

HMG's contribution of £10,000 was very much appreciated.

28/10

Bahrain Dept. (Mr. Powell)

BV noted

To Mr. Powell on Nov. 12, p1.

USR 17/XI

JMG 29/10

30/12

(Printing Instructions)

(Referred to Legal Adviser)

(Action completed)	(Main Indexed)
31/12 JB	K.M.P. 26/2/65

Mr Doyle
UN (ECoSoC) Dept.

RECEIVED IN
ARCHIVES No. 2
28 OCT 1964

With the compliments of

THE CONFERENCE AND SUPPLY DEPARTMENT

Mr Spoke
A.E. Williams
23/X

FOREIGN OFFICE
17 CARLTON HOUSE TERRACE
LONDON, S.W.1.

BRITISH RED CROSS SOCIETY

14 Grosvenor Crescent,
London, S.W.1.

27/6

RECEIVED IN
ARCHIVES No. 2
28 OCT 1964
USR 1822/1/4.

20th October, 1964

Disasters Emergency Committee

It is proposed to hold a short meeting of the Disasters Emergency Committee in the Board Room at 14 Grosvenor Crescent, S.W.1. at 11.30 a.m. on Tuesday October 27th 1964.

The purpose of the meeting will be to discuss the financial arrangements referring to the transport from Zanzibar to Muscat and Oman of the Manga Arabs who have been seeking repatriation. These expenses have been met in the first instance by the United Nations High Commission for Refugees who now seek reimbursement of costs incurred to date.

A.B. HODGSON

To: Members of the Disasters Emergency Committee

BRITISH RED CROSS SOCIETY

14 Grosvenor Crescent,
London, S.W.1.

CONFIDENTIAL

22nd October, 1964

To: Members of the Disaster Emergency Committee.

MANGA ARABS - ZANZIBAR

Fifth Progress Report

Since the issue of the last Progress Report, correspondence with Zanzibar has been conducted through the Tanganyika Red Cross Society who have the closest possible liaison with the Red Cross Committee in Zanzibar where we have been fortunate in our local Red Cross representative, Mr. Hassan Abdulla, who has most competently handled recent embarkations.

On the 23rd September, the SS "Camphuys" sailed from Zanzibar with 33 passengers (8 families) who had independently obtained visas from Muscat and 14 passengers (5 families) who were proceeding to Mukhalla in the South Arabian Federation.

At the end of September, clearance was obtained from the Muscat and Oman authorities by the granting of visas for some 91 families. This information was immediately relayed to the Tanganyika Red Cross and in the event the ship "Saffina 'El' Hajjaj" sailed from Zanzibar on the 4th October with 307 passengers representing 77 families.

The position to date therefore is that some 592 passengers have been granted free transport to Arabian countries from Zanzibar and present information indicates that between 600 and 700 Arabs are still waiting transport from Zanzibar while we continue to await news from Muscat and Oman authorities that they have been granted visas. As soon as clearance is received, arrangements will be made to put these Arabs on any ship which is available.

The U.N.H.C.R. had advised that the cost of transport from Zanzibar to Muscat in respect of the 592 Arabs already sent is "slightly under £10,000". It is difficult to determine exactly how many Arabs remain to be transported as the figures always include dependants and young children and, although the Tanganyika Red Cross have informed us that between 600/700 await transport, there are still, counting all dependents, some 900/1000 names remaining on the lists which have been sent for clearance to Muscat.

The British Red Cross Society are continuing to assist the Tanganyika Red Cross, at the latter's request, with grants of funds to help in the feeding of those Arab families in Zanzibar who are completely destitute and expenditure on this count is now running at about £85 per week, a considerable reduction on the original rate of expenditure as some of the most needy cases have already left and others are managing to maintain themselves at least for the present.

As already advised to members, there will be a meeting of the Committee at 14 Grosvenor Crescent on Tuesday 27th October at 11.30 a.m. The U.N.H.C.R. representative will report at that meeting on the administration of the finances of the operation, taking into consideration the grants which his Organisation have been promised from H.M.Government and other sources.

A.B.Hodgson
for Sir Patrick Renison

Mr.Ashley Williams

BRITISH RED CROSS SOCIETY

14,Grosvenor Crescent,
London, S.W.1.

CONFIDENTIAL. 18th September,1964.

To: Members of the Disasters Emergency Committee.

MANGA ARABS - ZANZIBAR

Fourth Progress Report

Much activity has taken place since the issue of the Third Progress Report dated 21st August,1964.

Full personal,family and tribal details in the form requested by the Sultan of Muscat and Oman were obtained by the B.R.C.S.representative in Zanzibar before the end of August in respect of some 270 families amounting to some 1,100 persons. This information was consolidated in this office into one list which was sent by air mail to the Secretary for External Affairs for Muscat and Oman on the 9th September. The Muscat and Oman authorities were asked, with the Sultan's approval, to give priority to examining these lists and to inform this office immediately when the information had been checked and when clearance was granted for the individual heads of the families to enter Muscat and Oman with their dependants. It is hoped that this information should begin to become available before the end of September.

The closest possible co-operation has been maintained throughout with both the I.C.R.C. and the U.N.H.C.R.Headquarters in Geneva to whom copies of the lists of names have been sent. As soon as clearance is given for individual names, the U.N.H.C,R. will be informed and will endeavour to arrange for the necessary shipping space for the families concerned, using whatever facilities may become available.

Meanwhile, news was received last week that some 67 families involving 204 persons, had been embarked on the ship "Suffeina'el'Hajjan" which sailed from Zanzibar on the 8th September for Muscat. Some of these families were included in the lists mentioned above but had apparently applied privately direct to Muscat for entry visas in addition to registering with the Red Cross representative and had subsequently been lucky enough to receive entry visas direct.

It had unfortunately been necessary for the B.R.C.S.representative in Zanzibar to leave the Island, but he was still in Dar-es-Salaam when the "Suffeina'el'Hajjan" called at Zanzibar and was able to arrange to supervise indirectly the final arrangements for the embarkation of the 67 families mentioned above. It is hoped that future arrangements for the embarkation of the remaining Manga Arabs who wish to leave, can be handled by local representatives of the Zanzibar Red Cross Committee with the help of the United Nations High Commissioner.

The U.N.H.C.R. has met the initial costs of the transport of these 67 families and further information as to how it is proposed to distribute these costs will doubtless be received in due course. Meanwhile, the Zanzibar Red Cross Committee is continuing to issue food rations to those Arabs awaiting transport who are entirely destitute. Expenditure in this connection is running at approximately £100 per week and is being met from grants from a joint fund of the British Red Cross Society and the Order of St.John.

A further progress report will be issued as soon as any further definite information becomes available.

A.B.Hodgson
for Sir Patrick Renison.

CONFIDENTIAL

To: Members of the Disasters Emergency Committee 12th August, 1964.

MANGA ARABS - ZANZIBAR

Second Progress Report since the Disasters Emergency Committee Meeting held on 23rd July.

This report is supplementary to the Notes of a Meeting held in the B.R.C.S. office at 14 Grosvenor Crescent on the 4th August 1964, which have already been circulated to members.

During the week 4th to 11th August the Society has been in constant communication with the I.C.R.C. (through M. Hoffmann who returned to Geneva on 6th August), the U.N.H.C.R.'s office in Geneva, and the Sultan of Muscat and Oman's Adviser in London. Several telegrams have also been exchanged with Mr. Nicholas Phillips, the B.R.C.S. representative in Zanzibar.

Mr. Phillips reported on 5th August that the number of Arabs finally listed as awaiting transport to Muscat and Oman had reached 2,113.

The main difficulty arose because the Pan Islamic Shipping Line, who were to provide a ship under charter to the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees were not prepared to do so unless a guarantee could be given that all the Arabs embarking in Zanzibar would disembark at Muscat, or alternatively, that the Company would be indemnified against any loss incurred owing to the ship being delayed at Muscat.

While the Sultan of Muscat and Oman had agreed to accept all those who were successfuly 'screened' by his representatives who would board the ship at Muscat, he could not give any complete guarantee that he would be able to accept all those on board as the tribal details of the individuals listed were not available and there was not time to obtain these in any event before the 11th August. Neither was it possible to provide for temporary facilities in Muscat (pending any onward transport which might be arranged by the United Nations High Commissioner) for any Arabs whom the Sultan might not be able to accept, since the settlement of those accepted would in any case impose a very heavy strain on the authorities in Muscat and Oman.

At the Zanzibar end, it was clear that the government authorities were lukewarm in their support of the whole scheme and although the B.R.C.S. representative had always been assured that President Karume would sign a declaration stating that his government would release all those Arabs on the list, by August 10th the draft declaration had still not been presented to the President, in spite of daily reminders during the previous week.

On Monday August 10th therefore the situation in Muscat had not changed and no news had been received from Zanzibar that the draft declaration had been signed. In these circumstances the U.N.H.C.R. were unable to meet the Shipping Company's requirements and the latter were informed that the charter could not be arranged.

U.N.H.C.R. is however endeavouring to make other arrangements for another charter at a later date and has made some progress towards obtaining guarantees for the balance of funds required, having the assurance that over £20,000 has already been guaranteed by the voluntary organisations.

Meanwhile the B.R.C.S. representative in Zanzibar has been asked to continue to press the Zanzibar authorities for clearance for the Arabs and to try to obtain tribal and other details of the individuals concerned so that the information can be made available to the Muscat and Oman authorities.

A.B.HODGSON

for Sir Patrick Renison.

With the

Compliments of the Assistant Secretary

BRITISH RED CROSS SOCIETY,

14 & 15, GROSVENOR CRESCENT,

LONDON, S.W.1.

CONFIDENTIAL

MANGA ARABS - ZANZIBAR

(3rd) Progress report since the Disasters Emergency Committee Meeting held on Thursday 25th July, 1964.

M. Georges Hoffman of the International Committee of the Red Cross returned to Geneva from Zanzibar without being able to see Deputy President Karume about the Manga Arabs, since Karume had not by then returned to Zanzibar from the Cairo Conference. He carried a letter from the chief representative of the Manga Arabs, Sheikh Abdulla, for presentation to the Sultan of Mascat, stating that all prospective passengers are of Omani origin but that individual identification was impossible because personal papers were destroyed during the revolution.

M. Hoffman found the Zanzibar authorities less co-operative than on his previous visit.

After M. Hoffman left Zanzibar Mr. Nicholas Phillips of the British Red Cross Society pursued the question of a written undertaking to issue exit permits with Deputy President Karume on his return. On 29th July he cabled to say that he was having some difficulty in obtaining clearance from Karume, and he asked the deadline date for confirmation of charter of the vessel.

After reporting to the ICRC in Geneva and seeing Prince Sadruddin, the Deputy United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, M. Hoffman came to London to see the Sultan of Muscat and Oman. At a meeting at BRCS headquarters at which Mr. J.D.R. Kelly, representative of UNHCR in London, was also present it was agreed that if M. Hoffman could obtain the Sultan's agreement to receive the passengers on the ship it should be recommended to the UNHCR in Geneva that the ship should be chartered even if Deputy President Karume's clearance for their departure from Zanzibar had not by then been obtained. It is understood that UNHCR will charter the ship, although money has been promised to cover only about half the cost. UNHCR will continue to pursue efforts to find the remainder of the cost.

M. Hoffman, together with Miss Janet Adams, saw the Sultan of Muscat and Oman on the morning of the 30th July and gave him Sheikh Abdulla's letter. The Sultan appeared to be worried that there might be among the passengers non-Omanis. He told M. Hoffman that he could not give a decision before Monday 3rd August, as he wished to speak to his political adviser, Major Chauncey, who would not reach London until Saturday evening. Mr. Kelly telephoned this information to his office in Geneva and they have cabled to the shipping Company saying that they will make the decision regarding the charter on Monday evening. Mr. Nicholas Phillips in Zanzibar has been informed by telegram that this is the position.

Patrick Renison

TO: MEMBERS OF THE DISASTERS EMERGENCY COMMITTEE

BRITISH RED CROSS SOCIETY

NOTE OF A MEETING HELD IN THE VICE-CHAIRMAN'S OFFICE AT 14 GROSVENOR CRESCENT, LONDON, S.W.1., ON TUESDAY 4TH AUGUST 1964, AT 10.30 A.M., TO DISCUSS THE POSITION REGARDING THE CHARTER OF A SHIP TO CONVEY THE MANGA ARABS FROM ZANZIBAR TO MUSCAT.

PRESENT

Sir Patrick Renison (In the Chair)
M. Georges Hoffmann — International Committee
Mr. J.D.R.Kelly, — Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, London.
Miss J. Thompson
Miss M. Ingle
Mrs. J. Adams
Mr. A.B. Hodgson

M. Hoffmann reported the result of his discussions with the Sultan of Muscat and Oman over the last few days. He had handed the Sultan Sheikh Abdulla's letter and a list of those Arabs who had expressed a wish to leave; the Sultan had been reluctant to accept any Arabs from Zanzibar without a proper passport or identification papers showing Omani origin. He had asked for further details and stated in particular that the following were important :-

a) the tribal details of the person concerned.
b) to which Sheikh in Muscat and Oman the persons concerned were connected.
c) to which part of the country they wish to go.
d) the name of the family they would wish to contact on arrival.

M. Hoffmann stated he had informed the Sultan's Adviser that it would not be possible to obtain this information while the Arabs were still in Zanzibar. In the first place, there would not be time to do so before the ship became available on August 11th: secondly, any further attempt to extract details from individual Arabs in Zanzibar would involve undesirable publicity for the whole exercise and might well cause additional antagonism on behalf of the Zanzibar Government which in any case was reluctant to give clearance to these Arabs to depart.

It was finally agreed with the Sultan's Adviser that the above information could be provided and the necessary screening of the Arabs concerned could be done on board the ship when it arrived at Muscat, and the Sultan on his part would be willing to receive all those who were satisfactorily screened if the authorities who had chartered the ship agreed to be responsible for any who were rejected.

At the Zanzibar end, the position was no more definite. Vice-President Hanga had informed Mr. Phillips of the B.R.C.S. that the Zanzibar Government were opposed to the whole idea as it did not consider there was now any need for these Arabs to leave the Island. Nevertheless, a later telegram from Mr. Phillips indicated that he was awaiting the issue of an agreed declaration by the Government that they would release the Arabs concerned. One of the difficulties had been that Mr. Phillips had not succeeded in making direct contact with Mr. Karume, the de facto Head of the Government in Zanzibar.

After discussion it was agreed that Mr. Kelly should recommend that nevertheless U.N.H.C.R. should pursue the question of the charter of a ship with the Shipping Company concerned, as the time was so short, in the hope that clearance from Zanzibar would be received before the 11th August. Some form of penalty clause in the ship's charter agreement, to cover delay in departure, might be necessary.

/contd.

It was agreed that the information in the form requested by the Sultan of Muscat and Oman could probably be collected by the Arabs themselves once they were on board ship and during the voyage and that, if necessary, a representative of the International Committee could meet the ship on arrival at Muscat so that the position would be reviewed after screening by the Muscat and Oman authorities had taken place. A certain number of Arabs on the list had expressed a desire to return to addresses in the Hadramaut, and it might prove necessary for the ship to proceed to Mukalla before or after leaving Muscat.

The B.R.C.S. on its part, would be willing to make further representations direct to President Karume, if necessary, once they were assured the ship had been chartered and was on its way to Zanzibar.

It was not considered advisable at this stage for Mrs. Adams to return to Zanzibar.

1964

US

United Nations (Economic & Social) Department

(Security Grading—to be Up-graded where Appropriate)

REFUGEES

US R 1822/1/5

FROM Standing Conference of British Organisations for Aid to Refugees.

No.

Dated

Received Oct. 29

(Outward Action)

SUBJECT: S. C. B. O. A. R.

Agenda Committee

Item 5. Disasters Emergencies Committee

The evacuation of Manga Arabs from Zanzibar to Muscat & Oman

Encloses Copy of:

References and Relevant Papers:

MINUTES

Bahrain Dept (Mr. Bourne)

MC 2/11

JA 29/10

(Printing Instructions)

(Referred to Legal Adviser)

(Action completed)	(Main Indexed)
BM 3/11	KMP 26/2/68

RECEIVED IN
ARCHIVES
29 OCT 1964

STANDING CONFERENCE OF

BRITISH ORGANISATIONS FOR AID TO REFUGEES

AGENDA COMMITTEE

Miss Hope Gibbons. USR 18228/5
Sir Patrick Reilly.

ITEM 5

5. Disasters Emergency Committee

The main preoccupation of the Committee has been the exercise of evacuating Manga Arabs from Zanzibar to Muscat and Oman and other Arabian countries. This has been carried out jointly by the British Red Cross Society and the U.N.H.C.R. when the latter agreed to administer the financing of the scheme.

Difficulties arose originally because the Arabs concerned in Zanzibar had no valid passports or papers which were acceptable to the authorities in Muscat and Oman. The Sultan of Muscat and Oman agreed, however, that his Government would give clearance to any genuine resident of his country provided sufficient personal particulars were supplied to enable him to make the necessary enquiries in each case. These particulars were obtained in the first place by the British Red Cross Society's representative in Zanzibar and latterly through the Tanganyika Red Cross Society and details of some 315 families have been forwarded to the Muscat and Oman authorities. Clearance has already been received from the latter for some 91 families and some of these, together with a few who obtained visas by direct application to the authorities in Muscat, have been given free transport to Muscat. To date some 578 passengers have been sent to Muscat and 14 to Mukhalla, making a total of 592. Present information indicate that between 600 and 700 Arabs are still awaiting clearance in Zanzibar.

The cost of transport to date has been just under £10,000 which is considerably less than the amount (approximately £20,000) which was guaranteed by the voluntary agency members of the Committee. In addition, there have been promises of assistance from H.M. Government and other sources.

A meeting of the Committee was held on Tuesday, 27th October, to discuss the finances of this operation.

1964

US

United Nations (Economic & Social) Department

REFUGEES

(Security Grading—to be Up-graded where Appropriate)

US R 18221/6

FROM Miss J. Thompson
British Red Cross Society,
to Mr. Powell

No.

Dated Oct. 27

Received
Oct. 28

(Outward Action)

SUBJECT: Manga Arabs.

Clearance for a further 49 families to leave Zanzibar has been received.

Encloses Copy of:

References and Relevant Papers:

UNR 18221/51

MINUTES

Arabian Dept (Mr. Powell)

MMC
2/11

29/10

(Printing Instructions)

(Referred to Legal Adviser)

(Action completed)

BM
3/11

(Main Indexed)

26/2/65

THE BRITISH RED CROSS SOCIETY

14 & 15 GROSVENOR CRESCENT
LONDON, S.W.1.

[redacted]

Telephone :
BELgravia 5454

Cables :
BRITREDCROSS, LONDON, S.W.1

Telegrams :
REDCROS, KNIGHTS, LONDON

Patron and President : HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN
Vice-President : HER MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH THE QUEEN MOTHER
Executive Committee :
Chairman : THE LORD INCHYRA, G.C.M.G., C.V.O.
Vice-Chairmen : DAME ANNE BRYANS, D.B.E.
SIR PATRICK RENISON, G.C.M.G.
Secretary General : F. H. D. PRITCHARD, ESQ., C.B.E.

EL'E

27th October 1964

C. D. Powell, Esq.,
Foreign Office,
Downing Street,
S.W.1.

28 OCT 1964
USR 18221/6

JNR 18221/51

Dear Mr. Powell,

Thank you for your letter of 1st October confirming contents of a cable received from Muscat giving clearance to 42 Manga Arab families wishing to leave Zanzibar. We have since received a cable from the Secretary for External Affairs giving clearance to a further 49 families.

Yours sincerely

Joan Thompson

Joan Thompson
Deputy to
Director International Affairs

1964

US

United Nations (Economic & Social) Department

(Security Grading—to be Up-graded where Appropriate)

CONFIDENTIAL

US R18221/7

FROM British Red Cross Society.

No.

Dated

Received Nov. 2

(Outward Action)

SUBJECT: Manga Arabs.

Notes of Meeting ~~held~~ of the Disasters Emergency Committee on Oct. 27th. The financing and transport of Manga Arabs from Zanzibar to Muscat.

Encloses Copy of:

References and Relevant Papers:

MINUTES

Arabian Dept. (Mr. Powell) copies 17/xi

(Printing Instructions)

(Referred to Legal Adviser)

(Action completed)	(Main Indexed)
BLM 18/11	26/3/65

Mr J. Doyle
United Nations (ECOSOC) Dept.

With the compliments of

THE CONFERENCE AND SUPPLY DEPARTMENT

Red X have asked me to pass this copy of Notes on to you.

30/X

FOREIGN OFFICE
17 CARLTON HOUSE TERRACE
LONDON, S.W.1.

RECEIVED IN ARCHIVES No. 2
2 NOV 1964

RECEIVED IN ARCHIVES No. 2
2 NOV 1964
USR 18221/7

CONFIDENTIAL

BRITISH RED CROSS SOCIETY

NOTES OF A MEETING OF THE DISASTERS EMERGENCY COMMITTEE HELD IN THE BOARD ROOM AT 14 GROSVENOR CRESCENT, LONDON, S.W.1., ON TUESDAY 27TH OCTOBER 1964, AT 11.30 A.M.

PRESENT

Sir Patrick Renison (In the Chair) British Red Cross Society
The Lady Alexandra Metcalfe)
Major J.P. Fonseca) Save The Children Fund
Mr. B.J. Dudbridge (Christian Aid)
Mr. Hilton (Oxfam)
Mr. F.Harcourt Munnings (War on Want)
Mr. J.D.R. Kelly (Representative of the U.N.High Commissioner for Refugees)
Mr. A.E.W. Williams (Conference and Supply Department, Foreign Office)
Mr. J. Doyle (U.N.(E and S Department) Foreign Office
Miss G.Watts (representing Standing Conference of British Organisations for Aid to Refugees.)
Mr. A.B. Hodgson (Secretary to the Committee)

In attendance: Miss M. Ingle) British Red Cross Society
Miss J. Thompson)

Apologies for absence were received from Lord Astor and Mr. R. de Burlet of the Commonwealth Relations Office.

The Chairman stated that he had called this meeting particularly to discuss the question of financing the transport of Manga Arabs from Zanzibar to Muscat.

The position was that some 592 Arabs (including wives and children) had been transported to Muscat and neighbouring States since the operation had commenced. Members had been kept informed by means of Progress Reports, the fifth Progress Report having been issued on the 22nd October. A few of the Arabs who had embarked had had their own passports or had secured valid visas from Muscat since the Zanzibar revolution, but visas had been obtained for the remainder through the efforts of the British Red Cross who had supplied family details and particulars to the authorities in Muscat and Oman. Altogether details had been supplied in respect of some 1,100 persons, and 532 of these had already received clearance. This left about 570 Arabs remaining in Zanzibar in respect of whom particulars had been sent to the Muscat and Oman authorities and there were doubtless some others who might wish to travel but in respect of whom full details had not yet been received. It was difficult therefore to estimate the exact number of Arabs still awaiting clearance and transport, but this number could be estimated at between 600 and 700. This was a figure which had recently been confirmed through the Tanganyika Red Cross Society and the 900 to 1,000 figure in the last Progress Report should therefore be disregarded as probably being an over-estimate.

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees had reported that expenditure on transport to date had been approximately £10,000. The Chairman then asked Mr. Kelly to enlarge on the financial arrangements.

Mr. Kelly said that in addition to the £20,000 which had been guaranteed by the charities who were members of the Disasters Emergency Committee, H.M. Government had agreed to contribute £10,000 towards the cost of the Zanzibar operation and an offer had been received from voluntary agencies in Western Germany of up to £20,000 for the same purpose.

p.t.o.

Mr. Kelly went on to say that H.M.G. had agreed to pay over the £10,000 which would be set against the cost of the Zanzibar operation to date. On the figures presented by the Chairman he had estimated that the overall cost of the Zanzibar operation would be in the Region of £25,000; the voluntary agencies might therefore be faced with an ultimate bill for the remaining £15,000.

The Chairman pointed out, however, that the final bill might well be considerably less than £25,000 as he thought it unlikely that the Muscat and Oman authorities would in fact be able to give clearance to all the names which had been sent to them, and those Arabs who failed to obtain clearance in this way would have to remain in Zanzibar when the operation closed. He then asked the members present who had guaranteed contributions whether they agreed to contribute to the cost of the operation in direct proportion to the amounts which they originally guaranteed. On this basis it was probable that they would not be required to pay over the whole of the amounts which each had guaranteed. This basis of payment was unanimously agreed.

Mr. Kelly then outlined the difficulties which U.N.H.C.R. had encountered with the Congo government regarding some 60,000 Rwanda refugees who had been resettled in the Kivu Province of the Congo, and explained that the U.N.H.C.R. were now looking for sources of funds to finance the removal of 1,000 of these refugees (who had become persona non grata to the government of the Congo,) by airlifting them to the Mwezi Highlands of Tanganyika. He hoped that the voluntary agencies would agree to divert any funds which might accrue from the sums they had guaranteed for the Zanzibar operation to this new Kivu emergency. He added that he hoped to be able to divert the sums promised by the Western German voluntary agencies in the same way.

After some discussion the Committee considered that U.N.H.C.R. should make an appeal for these funds as a separate issue from the Zanzibar operation as each organisation would in any case have to consider such an appeal against the background of their other commitments in Central Africa. Lady Alexandra Metcalfe, on behalf of the Save The Children Fund, stated that this was not an appeal which fell within the terms of reference of her organisation and that the Save The Children Fund could not therefore contribute.

The Chairman asked Mr. Kelly if he would take action on the lines indicated by the Committee and added that Mr. Kelly should also put this matter to the Sir Walter Coutts Sub-Committee of the Standing Conference for Aid to Refugees who dealt with such matters for Africa south of the Sahara. Mr. Kelly took note of this suggestion.

In closing the meeting the Chairman summed up by saying that the Zanzibar operation now awaited further clearance from Muscat and Oman authorities of the names already submitted. As soon as the names had been received from Muscat, transport could be sought for the Arabs concerned, and the operation would then close. In the meantime a contribution was being made from funds at the disposal of the British Red Cross Society and the Order of St.John towards the cost of feeding those Arabs awaiting shipment in Zanzibar, and this would continue until a final answer had been received from Muscat. The present cost of this was averaging about £80 per week.

The Chairman thanked members for attending and undertook to keep them informed by progress reports of further developments.

1964

US

United Nations (Economic & Social) Department

REFUGEES

(Security Grading—to be Up-graded where Appropriate)

CONFIDENTIAL

US R18221/8

FROM F.O. Draft, M. D. J. McCarthey.

No.

Dated Nov. 5

Received Nov. 9.

SUBJECT: Manga Arabs

We should like to send round an Intel or Guidance Summarising the Manga Arab problem, and Muscat's contribution to easing it. Asks M. Duncan to let us have certain information as a check on what we already have.

Encloses Copy of:

References and Relevant Papers:

(Outward Action)

Dft.) J.S.R. Duncan Esq., M.B.E., Muscat., from M. D. J. McCarthey of 10/11

8c) J.R. Rich, Bahrain 9/10/11

8c) D. G. Crawford, New York. 10/11

MINUTES

A.J.C. 10/11

(Printing Instructions)

(Referred to Legal Adviser)

(Action completed)	(Main Indexed)
DLM 10/11	26/2/65

BY. BAG - TUES. NOV 10. 2 PM.

+3

Nov. 9.

Registry No. USR 18221/8

~~Top Secret.~~
~~Secret.~~
Confidential.
~~Restricted.~~
~~Open.~~

Insert Telephone No. & Ext. when appropriate.

RECEIVED IN ARCHIVES No. 2
9 NOV 1964
USR 18221/8

Draft.

J S R Duncan
Esq.,
M.B.E.

Muscat

from

D J McCarthy
McCARTHY

Copy to

(1) J. R. Rich Esq
Bahrain

(2) D G Crawford,
Esq
N.Y.

RECEIVED IN DIVISION
- 9 NOV 1964
SENT TO
TYPE
DESPATCHED
9/11
UN

When the ~~new~~ revolutionary government of Zanzibar dispossessed, interned & sought to expel a large proportion of the Arab population (after many had been butchered) ~~the most~~ one of the two most notable things was the failure of the Arab states to raise their voices or offer to help. The other was the quiet absorption of well over 3000 Arab refugees by the Sultanate of Muscat & Oman.

2. We have had it in mind for some time that when the movement to Muscat was more or less complete we might send round an Inlet or /guidance

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

(87285) Hw.

guidance summarising the problem & Muscat's contribution to easing it. We should now like to do this & to make it coincide, more or less, with the report of the ad hoc Committee on Buraimi. It would not seek to denigrate Zanzibar or the uncooperative Arab States, but could be useful factually to redress the balance if the Sultan comes under renewed defamation.

3. Most of the information content can be prepared here. Could you please however let us know briefly, as a check on other information:

(a) the number admitted to the Sultanate (our last count in August was over 3,500).

(b) the number turned away (2 at that time, both at having no bona fide Buraimi identity).

/(c)

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No.

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Draft.

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when appropriate.

.....

(c) how the refugees have been absorbed, and any points of interest over this.

4. Copies go to Rich in Bahrain & Crawford in New York.

(D. J. McCarthy)

5/11

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

(87285) Hw.

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

November 10, 1964.

(USR 18221/8)

CONFIDENTIAL

When the revolutionary government of Zanzibar dispossessed, interned and sought to expel a large proportion of the Arab population (after many had been butchered) one of the two most notable things was the failure of the Arab states to raise their voices or offer to help. The other was the quiet absorption of well over 3,000 Arab refugees by the Sultanate of Muscat and Oman.

2. We have had it in mind for some time that when the movement to Muscat was more or less complete we might send round an Intel or Guidance summarising the problem and Muscat's contribution to easing it. We should now like to do this and to make it coincide, more or less, with the report of the ad hoc Committee on Oman. It would not seek to denigrate Zanzibar or the uncooperative Arab States, but could be useful factually to redress the balance if the Sultan comes under renewed defamation.

3. Most of the content can be prepared here. Could you please however let us know briefly, as a check on other information:

a) the number admitted to the Sultanate (our last count in August was over 3,500).

b) the number turned away (2 at that time, both as having no bona fide Omani identity).

c) how the refugees have been absorbed, and any points of interest over this.

4. Copies go to Rich in Bahrain and Crawford in New York.

Signed: Michael Klein

(who has now Succeeded M. McCarthy)

p.p. (D.J. McCarthy)

J.S.R. Duncan Esq., M.B.E.
MUSCAT.

CONFIDENTIAL

1964

US

United Nations (Economic & Social) Department

REFUGEE

(Security Grading—to be Up-graded where Appropriate)

√US R18221/9

FROM Miss J. Thompson, International Red Cross, to Mr. M.I. Goulding.

No.

Dated

Received Nov. 9.

SUBJECT: Manga Arabs

482 Arabs in Zanzibar still awaiting clearance. The ship sailing on Nov. 10, may be their last opportunity for embarkation to Muscat under the present scheme. Requests further clearances.

Encloses Copy of: Tel. from Muscat & Oman to British Red Cross, London, of 5/11.

References and Relevant Papers: UBR 18219/3 (65)

See MINUTES within.

(Outward Action)

(T) Muscat, 263 of 6/11.

D/F Mr J.S.R. Duncan Muscat from Mr Powell, Arabian Dept 19/2

(Printing Instructions)

(Referred to Legal Adviser)

(Action completed)	(Main Indexed)
BLM 18/11	26/2/65

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN

Minutes

Manga Arabs

Miss Thompson of the Br. Red Cross telephoned me about the attached telegram today. She asked whether we would instruct the C-G at Muscat to urge the Dept. of External Affairs to speed up the processing of the remaining Manga families. I said we would consider this.

2. I understand that it has not been our policy to get involved in this operation. I also believe that it is unlikely that intervention by the C-G would have much effect, as the delay is probably due to the Dept of the Interior which has to trace and check the tribal affinities in Oman of the Mangas. On the other hand the main part of the operation is complete and it would seem churlish to withhold our help (if our intervention would be of any help) on policy grounds at this late stage.

3. I suggest therefore that we might send the attached aft telegram to Muscat.

M.M. Gorely

6/11

Sorry

UN.

Mr. Doyle
U.N. Dept

Wt. 43560/43 4/63
Ed. (53)

Sorry to hold this up. Doyle is in Geneva and some consultation of Board opp. was necessary. I agree to your draft. A. J. Coles 6/11.

Mr. Goulding.
Arabian Dept. M McGould 6/11

Doyle to see

yrs 6/11

A. J. C 10/11.

Mr. Doyle o/r. J A 6/11

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN

M. I. Goulding, Esq.,
Foreign Office,
Downing Street,
S.W.1.

USR 19221/9
9 NOV 1964
ARCHIVES No. 2
RECEIVED

With the Compliments of the

Deputy *Director International Affairs*

Attached is copy of the telegram we spoke about this morning

Joan Thompson
6.11.64

The British Red Cross Society,
14, Grosvenor Crescent,
London, S. W.1
Belgravia 5454

COPY

LT

SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS SULTANATE OF MUSCAT AND OMAN MUSCAT

FURTHER OUR TELEGRAM THIRTIETH OCTOBER ARE NOW INFORMED 482 ARABS IN ZANZIBAR STILL AWAITING CLEARANCE STOP NEXT SHIP SAILING TENTH NOVEMBER MAY BE LAST OPPORTUNITY FOR EMBARKATION MUSCAT UNDER PRESENT SCHEME STOP THEREFORE EXTREMELY GRATEFUL FOR YOUR FURTHER COOPERATION IN CABLING US CLEARANCE ALL REMAINING FAMILIES SOONEST POSSIBLE

BRITREDCROSS LONDON, S.W.1.

5295
Despatched 5th November 1964

Registry No.

~~Top Secret~~
~~Secret~~
~~Confidential~~
~~Restricted~~ Restricted
~~Open~~

~~EMERGENCY~~ } *
~~IMMEDIATE~~
PRIORITY
~~ROUTINE~~
with ____ priority
without
~~DEFERRED~~

* Date and time (G.M.T.) telegram should reach addressee(s) .....

(Date) 6/11

Despatched 5.15 pm

CONFIDENTIAL

Draft.

Telegram to:— MUSCAT

No. 263

(Date) 6 Nov

And to :—

[Security classification —if any] ~~Restricted~~ Restricted

[Codeword—if any]

Address to MUSCAT

telegram No. 263 (date) 6/11

repeated for information to BAHRAIN.

Repeat to :— BAHRAIN 902

RECD ARCHIVES - 7 NOV 1964

~~En Clair~~.
~~Code~~
~~Cypher~~ Cypher

Distribution :— Depte Arabian U.N. Depts

Copies to :—

MANGA Arabs.

BRITISH Red Cross have told us that 482 MANGAS in Zanzibar still await clearance from Sultanate authorities. Next ship sails on November 10 and may be last opportunity for embarkation to Muscat under present scheme. Red Cross have cabled External Affairs Muscat for earliest possible clearance for remaining families.

2. If you think it would be useful, ~~please urge~~ ~~External Affairs on early reply~~ (you have discretion to urge External Affairs to make an early reply) making it clear that your INTERVENTION intervention is on humanitarian grounds alone and not designed to influence the Sultan's decision.

yrs by xi

Quelch
6/11

See minute below.
MM Gould 6/11

4
6/11/64

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN

(80728) Wt. 17714—35 200m 7/62 St.S.

~~Dept~~ Distr.

~~Arabian~~ Arabian Dept.

UN Dept

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN

RESTRICTED

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO MUSCAT

Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL DISTRIBUTION

No. 263
November 6, 1964 D: 5.15 p.m. November 6, 1964

PRIORITY
RESTRICTED

Addressed to Muscat telegram No. 263 of November 6.
Repeated for information to: Bahrain [Priority]

Manga Arabs.

British Red Cross have told us that 482 Mangas in Zanzibar still await clearance from Sultanate authorities. Next ship sails on November 10 and may be last opportunity for embarkation to Muscat under present scheme. Red Cross have cabled External Affairs Muscat for earliest possible clearance for remaining families.

2. If you think it would be useful, you have discretion to urge External Affairs to make an early reply, making it clear that your intervention is on humanitarian grounds alone and not designed to influence the Sultan's decision.

DISTRIBUTED TO:

Arabian Department
United Nations Department

4444

RESTRICTED

19 February 1965

Registry
No. USR1822/9

Insert Telephone No. & Ext.
when appropriate.

~~Top Secret.~~
~~Secret.~~
~~Confidential~~
Restricted.
~~Open.~~ Restricted

Draft. letter

~~F. S. R. Duncan~~

F. S. R. Duncan
M.B.E.
Muscat

from

C. D. Powell

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Please refer to Foreign Office telegram no. 263 of November 6, 1964 to you about the Manga Arabs.

2. The U.N. Deputy High Commissioner for Refugees has visited Zanzibar recently, and has reported that 58 Manga Arab families still await clearance for travel to Muscat. The Red Cross, who express great admiration for the Sultanate's work in processing the refugees, are reluctant to have to press the Department of External Affairs once again (they have done so several times) to hurry on with granting clearances (for

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18 FEB 1965
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DESPATCHED

(85261) Hw.

for these families. They would shelter you. If you consider that it would be effective, would you be Department to clear ~~the~~ ~~families~~ as soon as possible the few families remaining to be dealt with on the Red Cross list. As you may ~~have~~ know, the Red Cross representative in Zanzibar has been expelled, so they are unable to let us know the list numbers of the families still awaiting clearance, but if the Department could clear all the remaining families on the ~~Red Cross list~~ list, the fifty-eight ~~odd~~ waiting to sail would probably be included.

3. I told the Red Cross that I was sure you would consider this request sympathetically, but that it would be left to you to decide how, or whether, to act.

C.D.P. 18/2.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

RESTRICTED

(USR 18221/9)

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

19 February, 1965.

Please refer to Foreign Office telegram No. 263 of 6 November, 1964 to you about the Manga Arabs.

2. The United Nations Deputy High Commissioner for Refugees has visited Zanzibar recently, and has reported that 58 Manga Arab families still await clearance for travel to Muscat. The Red Cross, who express great admiration for the Sultanate's work in processing the refugees, are reluctant to have to press the Department of External Affairs once again (they have done so several times) to hurry on with granting clearances for these families. They wonder whether you, if you consider that it would be effective, would urge the Department to clear as soon as possible the few families remaining to be dealt with on the Red Cross list. As you may know, the Red Cross representative in Zanzibar has been expelled, so they are unable to let us know the list numbers of the families still awaiting clearance; but if the Department could clear all the remaining families on the list, the fifty-eight waiting to sail would probably be included.

3. I told the Red Cross that I was sure you would consider their request sympathetically, but that it would be left to you to decide how, or whether, to act.

(C. D. Powell)

J. S. R. Duncan, Esq., M.B.E.,
Muscat.

RESTRICTED

US

United Nations (Economic & Social) Department

REFUGEES

1964

(Security Grading—to be Up-graded where Appropriate)

CONFIDENTIAL

US R 18221/10

FROM MR. J.S.R. DUNCAN, MUSCAT TO MR. WEIR.

No. 1821

Dated NOVEMBER 18

Received DECEMBER 4

(Outward Action)

SUBJECT: Refugees from ~~Zan~~ ZANZIBAR. Details of influx of refugees into OMAN.

Encloses Copy of:

References and Relevant Papers:

-/8.

MINUTES

This Tulée has now been postponed.

Lee -/8

29/12

(Printing Instructions)

(Referred to Legal Adviser)

(Action completed)	(Main Indexed)
31/12 JB	28/2/65

VS 1) Mr. Lowell
2) Enter 111
3) RC Duncan
4/12

CONFIDENTIAL

1821.

BRITISH CONSULATE GENERAL,
MUSCAT.

November 18, 1964.

F
A
4-DEC1964
USR18221/10

Dear Michael,

Please refer to your letter USR 18221/8 of November 10 about refugees from Zanzibar. I think it would be useful to put out an Intel or Guidance on the lines you suggest.

2. To date some 3550 refugees have been absorbed; only 7 who could not convince the authorities that they were of Omani origin, have been turned away. The Sultan from the very beginning has been willing to accept refugees provided he could be certain that they were his own subjects. His authorities in Muscat have interpreted this condition as liberally as possible and the smooth absorption of the first rush of refugees, who arrived without documents by any vessel available, was due to their efforts. The civil authorities identified them, local merchants contributed to provide food and shelter and the Sultan's Armed Forces provided transport to take them to their tribes in the Interior. While the majority of these refugees returned to the Sharqiya area, many have gone to virtually all parts of the Sultanate.

3. After the initial rush the Sultan insisted that identification and documentation should be carried out before the refugees set out for Muscat. Again his officials have applied themselves to the task, and identity documents have been provided quickly. In the normal course of events this is a long and complicated business in Muscat.

4. I am copying this letter to Rich in Bahrain and Crawford in New York.

Yours ever,
J.S.R. Duncan.

(J.S.R. Duncan)

M.S. Weir, Esq.,
Foreign Office,
London.

It is good to know that you are in the Dept.

CONFIDENTIAL

US

United Nations (Economic & Social) Dept.

(Security Grading—to be Up-graded where Appropriate)

CONFIDENTIAL

1964

REFUGEES

US R 18221/11

FROM F.O. Draft memorandum

SUBJECT: Hanga Arab Refugees.

Summarises the whole story of the Hanga Arab refugees from February onwards.

No. -

Dated Aug. 18.

Received Jan. 20 (1965)

Encloses Copy of:

References and Relevant Papers:

(Outward Action)

See MINUTES within.

(Printing Instructions)

(Referred to Legal Adviser)

(Action completed)	(Main Indexed)
8/5	27/2/67

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CONFIDENTIAL

Minutes.

Hanga Arabs

Attached a summary of the Hanga Arab question since February, for Arabian Dept.'s records. Does it strike you as fair account?

2. The total for Arabs received by Muscat (3,549) is what I reached after prolonged addition.

C. D. Powell 17/8.

(M. Doyle) U.N. Dept.

Your addition has been confirmed by the UNHCR's representative here!

§4. I take it that you

Arabian Dept.
(Mr. Powell)

Mr. Bourne-Jones
(First)

21-8

B

M.F.P

Minutes.

You mean that no practical measures were taken by the UNHCR? The answer to that is, I think, that the UNHCR could not, under the terms of his mandate, use his official funds. The Nuanga Arabs were not refugees because they were in their country of nationality or habitual residence. All that the UNHCR could do was to appeal to governments under the UN Good Offices resolution which we did — at first to Iraq alone and later to at least one other govt, namely, the UAR (see also §9)

The use of the word "return" in §7 could be misleading. Most of these Arabs had been in Zanzibar

Jm

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Minutes.

for this or three generations.

§9. What actually happened in the CRO is not clear. When the UNHCR's appeal arrived, I suggested to my opposite number in the CRO that Ministers should at least be advised that this problem existed & whatever they decided to do about making a Contribution. Somewhere at a high level in the CRO it was decided to ~~offer~~ ask the Tzy for £10,000 and they agreed.

12/8

Mr. Burrell-Jones.

18/8

M.F.P

Minutes.

I am very wish
to see this.

C. D. Powell

This is useful, & might be sent, under a covering letter, to interested F.O. & (if CRO. after) CRO. posts. I suggest Bahrain, Muscat, Kuwait, all the P.G. Agencies, Jedda, Cairo, Beirut (for RIO), W'hall, New York (UK Mis & SIS), Geneva (UK Del.) & perhaps Addis Ababa (centre for the ECA & OAU), & Port of Aden

jrs
19/viii

WCAD also see first

Mr Powell/ again

Do you have any objection to my circulating this as guidance to the above posts?

C. D. Powell
20/viii

Mr. Boyle (U.N.Dept.)
Mr. Hayfield (W.C.A.D.).

I think it should be made clear in the covering letter that we do not wish publicity to be given to this problem. The

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NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Minutes.

The Manga Arabs are in a precarious position and the slightest thing might cause the Zanzibar Govt to turn awkward.

I have no objection to the memorandum being circulated for background information. I have drafted two additional paragraphs explaining the UNHCR's position and the nationality status of the Manga.

I think the memorandum should be cleared with the CRO

J D 21/8

Mr. Powell-Jones (Privy)

Cmed J(N) 25/8

M.F.P

Minutes.

Cancel this Memorandum
& enclosed on your papers
with a copy of it enclosed
with your letter letter on
your papers.

25/8

Bahrain Dept.
(Mr. Parker)

Yes C.D. 9/12

Rec'd in Division
in Lunch time post
Mr Dept on 21/12/64
abroad

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Minutes.

Rec'd in Chancellor's Office Dec 21, 1964

I have delayed this because interest was "off" and we might as well round up as completely as possible.

I imagine the o/p. is now just about complete.

I have written to Duncan for up to date facts & figures. When we have them, please bring all this up to date so that it can issue just about simultaneously with the ad hoc (Committee's

M.F.P

Minutes.

Committee's report.

Mr. Powell o.r.

4/11

Do you consider it worthwhile issuing a circular (at Flag A) now? — I am doubtful, especially since the operation is virtually complete. — If you think there is still some advantage in informing Middle East posts of the background, I suggest that paragraph 11 needs to be brought up to date. Have we sufficient information for this?

C.D. Powell

9/12

U.N. Dept. (Mr. Doyle)

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Minutes.

I hope there is no question of giving this operation publicity at this time — or, unless the CRO agree at any other. The operation is not yet finished. The present position is that of the 602 Omanis still in Zanzibar, 282 have visas for Muscat and 120 of them are embarking for Muscat today. 19/12

Arabian Dept.
(Mr. Boyd)
I agree that this should rest for the moment.
Please B/U on 4.i.65.
C.D.P.
16/xii

X 21/12

/Since

M.F.P

Since not all the Mags have yet been removed from Zanzibar, we still cannot make effective use of this memo. However when the operation is complete (April?), I still think that there would be advantage in giving it publicity (i.e. the C.D.O. agree) on two counts:-

(a) The Sultan of Muscat's creditable role; this is the first time he has ever done anything worth favourable publicity.

(b) H.M.G.'s part in financing almost the whole operation. We might gain credit amongst moderate Arabs.

C.D. Powell

B/O on April 1.

Mr. Boyle

noted

I have discussed this with UN dept again. They do not wish to have any publicity RP 30/4

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DRAFT

MEMORANDUM

RECEIVED IN ARCHIVES No. 2
20 JAN 1965
USR1822/1/11

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CONFIDENTIAL

MANGA ARABS

The revolution in Zanzibar touched off an anti-Arab pogrom in which between 1,000 and 6,000 Arabs are thought to have been butchered.

2. In February of this year we received information that 160 Manga Arabs were to be deported from Zanzibar on the Jan Van Riebeeck. Following an appeal from the United Nations Deputy High Commissioner for Refugees, and from the International Committee of the Red Cross, these refugees were allowed to land in Muscat.

3. In March we heard that a further 1,000 Manga Arabs had been processed for repatriation/deportation, though at no time did the Zanzibar Government consult the Sultan of Muscat and Buraimi.

4. Over the next four months, 3,549 Manga Arab refugees arrived in Muscat, having made the crossing from Zanzibar in over-loaded and un-seaworthy dhows. Only six persons were refused permission to land by the Sultanate authorities, all six of whom turned out to be British protected persons. The Zanzibar Government's arbitrary action in assessing the departure of these Arabs passed almost unnoticed. We received enquiries from the State Department in Washington, and from a handful of Delegations at the United Nations, but none of these led either to representations in Zanzibar, or to practical measures to alleviate conditions for the Arabs in either Zanzibar or Muscat.

5. Our attitude to this incident has been that if there was no future for these unfortunate Arabs in Zanzibar, then the responsibility for addressing the Sultan of

/ Muscat

Muscat and Oman in order to secure his consent to their entry into the Sultanate lay with the Zanzibar Government, as did the responsibility of providing transport. We expressed our concern that the efforts being made by the International Committee of the Red Cross and the British Red Cross might lead them to become in effect agents in the process of deportation. In March, the I.C.R.C. seemed to be in agreement with this position, and told our Consul-General in Geneva that they considered responsibility for transport of the Arabs to Muscat outside their province. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees also took the view that the matter was one which should be settled directly between the Zanzibar and Muscat Governments. The Sultan of Muscat likewise declared that the responsibility for contacting him was clearly with the Zanzibar Government, as was the responsibility for arranging transport. He feared that if he made the first approach, the only reply would be to ask him to send transport at his own expense.

6. The first indication we received that anyone considered it a British responsibility to see that the Manga were repartiated to Muscat, was at a meeting on the 26th of March between Mr. Hoffman of the International Red Cross and members of the C.R.O. The view was however expressed privately. Our reply was that while we were prepared to keep the Sultan of Muscat, the International Red Cross, and the High Commissioner for Refugees informed of the situation, and to encourage the High Commissioner to use his good offices with the Sultan to secure admission for the deported Arabs, we

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could not accept that responsibility for the Manga was in any way ours.

7. In mid-June we heard from Zanzibar that there were now a further 1,200 Arabs hoping to return to Muscat; the number quickly rose to over 2,000. The Red Cross then laid plans for chartering a pilgrim ship to take them to Muscat, at a cost estimated at £43,000. A representative of the I.C.R.C. went to Zanzibar to obtain a list of the Manga awaiting repatriation, and to persuade the Zanzibar Government to put no obstacles in the way of their departure (The Zanzibar Government is reportedly sensitive of publicity of the treatment of the Manga, and likely to refuse them permission to leave if the Red Cross operation becomes generally known). The implication of Hoffman's trip was that the I.C.R.C. was now prepared to become the moving spirit behind the Mangas' ~~flight~~ exodus to Muscat. Hoffman originally intended to go on from Zanzibar to Muscat, but on hearing that the Sultan was coming to London, came here to meet him. At the request of the Red Cross, we asked the Sultan to receive Mr. Hoffman, and he did so. The result of this meeting was that the Sultan agreed to accept any Mangas who were genuinely of Omani origin, on certain conditions; principally, that the ships bringing them to Muscat should remain anchored off Muscat until each family had been cleared & identified by a Shaikh, and had found someone to sign a guarantee of responsibility for it. Any who could not be cleared in this way would not be allowed to land. The drawback of this condition was that it might involve the ship remaining in Muscat

/ harbour

harbour from one to two weeks.

8. The Red Cross had meanwhile been fund raising. Sir Patrick Renison approached the C.R.O. for a contribution from H.M.G., on the grounds that disaster had befallen the Manga Arabs so soon after/dependence, that the British Government had a moral obligation towards them. The C.R.O. replied that it was unreasonable that the British Government should be pressed to abandon its colonial possessions and should then be held responsible for problems created by the deliberate action of the newly independent States. Further, any action by us to help the Manga would, given the resentment the Government of Zanzibar harbour against us for maintaining the ex-Sultan, greatly restrict any advantages the Manga might gain from our help.

9. Subsequently, Mr. Kelly, the London Representative of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, called on United Nations Department, to inform them that the High Commissioner proposed to appeal to Governments under the "good offices" resolution, to provide funds to transport the Manga. He was told that H.M.G. should be included in the High Commissioner's appeal. In fact the appeal we eventually received was addressed to H.M.G. alone. The C.R.O. however decided to act on it, and approached the Treasury at Ministerial level to obtain authorisation for a donation of £10,000. The Treasury agreed. [This represented a complete volte face.] £10,000

10. The present position is that the International Committee of the Red Cross are now hoping to arrange for the Manga to leave Zanzibar

/ in

(1724) Wt.49878/C99 15m 10/61 [illegible] Ltd. Gp.863

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§10 The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees has ~~has~~ then appealed to other governments for funds. The High Commissioner cannot, under the terms of his mandate, treat the Iraqi Arabs as refugees because they are in their country of residence. This may appear narrowly legalistic in the present case but in general it is HMG's policy to encourage the UNHCR to stick to the terms of his mandate. The High Commissioner has an Emergency Fund which he has discretion to use under the general directives laid down by, and the subsequent approval of, the Executive Committee which comprises ~~forty~~ thirty countries including the main contributing ~~countries~~ countries to the UNHCR's programme of which the United Kingdom is one. But

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But even the Emergency Fund can be spent only on refugees. The only way in which the UNHCR could help the Manga Arabs was by making a special appeal under the "good offices" resolution of the General Assembly. This he did.

§ 17 The position regarding the nationality status of the Manga Arabs is as follows. Before December 1963, when Zanzibar became independent, they were British Protected Persons. After December 1963, they became Zanzibar citizens and HMG retained no responsibility for them whatever. Most of the Manga Arabs are the descendants of Omanis and have lived in Mdao Zanzibar for two or three generations.

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in September. An attempt to get them on a boat ~~this week~~ in mid August failed, because the shipping line was not prepared to embark passengers without a guarantee that they would be allowed to disembark in Muscat. And until vetting has taken place, the Red Cross could not give such a guarantee.

and UN
Arabian Department
August 18,
1964

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HOLD ???

Registry No.

Top ~~Secret~~.
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Insert Telephone No. & Ext. when appropriate.

.....

Draft. Letter

J.R.Rich
Bahrain

from

D.J. McCarthy.

Copies to:-

Consulate-Gen.
Muscat
—
Chancellor
Kuwait
Cairo
Jedda
Beirut
Addis Ababa
—
Political Agencies
Abu Dhabi
Dubai.
—
UKMIS New York.
— (2)
UKDEL Geneva
—
R. de Burlet
C.R.O.
(5).

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(87285) Hw.

I enclose a memorandum on the Zanzibar Government's expulsion of the Nasqa Arab community of the island, following the massacres of Arabs at the time of the revolution. 3544 of the Arabs had by mid-August been given asylum by the Sultan of Muscat & Oman, and the International Committee of the Red Cross are trying to arrange for the remaining 2000 or so to be transported there also.

2. The memorandum may however be used to provide background information in response to any questions on the subject. In particular, the favourable light the incident throws upon the Sultan of Muscat & Oman (especially as

We do not at this stage want to attract publicity: for one thing this could harm Arabs still remaining in Zanzibar.

the total failure of any other Arab or Afro-Asian country to take any action with the Zanzibar Government to prevent arbitrary deportations, or to alleviate the conditions of the refugees, could be emphasised.

as most these people are second or third generation in Zanzibar, & have the most exiguous claim to Omani nationality) and also

3. I am sending copies of this letter and its enclosure to the Consulate-General at Muscat, the Political Agencies at Dubai & Abu Dhabi, Chanceries at Cairo, Jedda, Kuwait, Beirut (for R.I.O.) and Addis Ababa, the U.K. Mission to the United Nations in New York (plus one for the R.I.S.), P.O.M.E.C. Aden, and the U.K. Delegation to the United Nations in Geneva. Also five copies have also gone to de Burlet in the C.R.O. for distribution amongst the C.R.O.'s East African posts.

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